



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Work Resumes on 60/91/215 Freeway Improvement Project**

**RIVERSIDE** - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) today announced that work on the \$317 million 60/91/215 Freeway Improvement Project will resume immediately. Following a brief disruption, crews from Washington/Obayashi, Joint Venture, the department's prime contractor, are back to work at the site today.

"Obviously, we are pleased that work will resume on the largest freeway improvement project in the Inland Empire. After continuous discussions, we were able to resolve issues within the bounds of the contract," said Anne Mayer, Caltrans District Director. "This project is important to the team, community and the travelling public--we are committed to delivering the project as promised."

Work on the 60/91/215 project started last March. The project, which includes building sweeping connector ramps from Interstate 215 to State Route 91 and new bridges at Linden and Iowa streets, is slated for a late 2007 completion date.

Currently, the project is 13 percent completed. Visible signs of construction are evident near the University of California Riverside where wooden falsework stretches across I-215 where new bridges are being built at Linden and Iowa streets. Also, concrete columns reaching more than 70 feet high grace the interchange between I-215, and State Routes 60 and 91 where mile-long freeway connector ramps are under construction. These ramps will ultimately transfer motorists from the northbound I-215 to the westbound SR91.

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Caltrans, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are working in partnership to construct improvements to the 60/91/215 Interchange and segments of each of the freeways that serve it. This project is one of the largest and most complex projects in the Inland Empire. The project stretches a distance of almost nine miles from Riverside on the west to Moreno Valley at its easterly terminus.

The three freeways that make up this overall improvement project and interchange are critical links between major Inland Empire communities in both Riverside and San Bernardino counties and serve the major flow of commuter and commercial traffic throughout the region. This interchange carried nearly 314,000 daily vehicles in 2003 and served more than 332,000 vehicles in 2004.

For project updates, call Caltrans directly at 1-866-60-91-215, or view the Web site at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/schedule.htm>.

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